

In The Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to control a controllable device [[[8]]] with a control device [[[6, 9, 10]]] in a network comprising several control devices [[[6, 9, 10]]], comprising ~~the steps of~~:
 - reserving the controllable device [[[8]]] with a first control device [[[6]]] as a primary controller; and
 - preventing a second control device [[[9, 10]]] or a further control device from overruling primary control of the first control device with secondary control commands.
2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second control device [[[9, 10]]] can reserve the controllable device [[[8]]] after the reservation of the first control device [[[6]]] as a secondary controller so that a further control device can not overrule secondary control of the second control device [[[9, 10]]] with further control commands.
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the controllable device [[[8]]] sends a rejection to the second control device [[[9, 10]]] working as the secondary controller trying to overrule the first control device [[[6]]] working as the primary controller or to the further control device trying to overrule the first control device [[[6]]] working as the primary controller, or the second control device [[[9, 10]]] working as the secondary controller, and said rejection including a list of all primary and/or secondary controllers.
4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the controllable device [[[8]]] sends the rejection directly to the control device [[[6, 9, 10]]] that is rejected.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the second control device [[[9, 10]]] shows a message after the second control device [[[9, 10]]] has received the rejection.
6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the second control device [[[9, 10]]] working as the secondary controller, or the further control device is able to pre-empt the primary and/or the secondary controllers at the controllable device to become the primary controller for the controllable device [[[8]]].
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the further control device can only pre-empt the first control device [[[6]]] and/or the second control device [[[9, 10]]] of a certain controllable device [[[8]]] after a user action.
8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein a pre-empted first control device [[[6]]] and/or second control device [[[9]]] receives a message regarding which second control device [[[9, 10]]] or further control device has pre-empted said first control device [[[6]]] and/or second control device [[[9]]].
9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the further control device can only pre-empt the first control device [[[6]]] and/or the second control device [[[9, 10]]] of the certain controllable device [[[8]]] for a predetermined number of times in a particular time period.
10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the control device [[[6, 9, 10]]] sends control commands directly to the controllable device [[[8]]] that is to be controlled.
11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the control device [[[6, 9, 10]]] can reserve the controllable device [[[8]]] or pre-empt another control device [[[6, 9]]] via a resource manager [[[7]]] included in the network.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said network is a home network.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said network is a 1394-based network.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said controllable device [[[8)]]] is a consumer electronic device.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for managing device control an electronic network, comprising:

an electronic device₁ coupled to said electronic network₁ ~~for performing to~~
perform specified functions;

a first controller₁ coupled to said electronic network₁ ~~for establishing to~~
establish a primary control over said electronic device;

a second controller₁ coupled to said electronic network₁ ~~for seeking to seek~~
said primary control over said electronic device; and

a resource manager configured to arbitrate between said first controller and
said second controller for controlling access to said primary control
over said electronic device.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said resource manager grants said second controller a secondary control over said electronic device.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein said first controller and said second controller communicate directly with said electronic device during said primary control and said secondary control.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said second controller utilizes said resource manager to pre-empt said first controller and thereby gains said primary control over said electronic device.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said network functions in accordance with a home audio-video interoperability specification.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for managing resources in an electronic network, comprising:

a network resource₁ coupled to said electronic network₁ ~~for performing to~~
perform specified functions;

a first client₁ coupled to said electronic network₁ ~~for requesting to request~~ a
primary control over said ~~electronic device~~ network resource; and

a resource manager configured to reserving said primary control over said
network resource for said first client.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein a second client coupled to said electronic network seeks said primary control over said network resource, and wherein said resource manager negotiates between said first client and said second client to obtain said primary control over said network resource.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein said resource manager initially attempts a non-intrusive reservation of said primary control of said network resource.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein said second client makes a pre-emption attempt to gain said primary control when said non-intrusive reservation is unsuccessful.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein a pre-emption attempt result for said pre-emption attempt is determined based on a respective resource role categorization for said first client and said second client.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein said network resource is shared with a primary access for full control of said network resource, and a secondary access for limited control of said network resource.